

WORK OF SECRET SERVICE

FOLLOWS EVIL DOERS LIKE FATE

How Chief Wilkie's Men Go About Their Work and Why the Path of the Counterfeiter is a Hard Road to Travel—New Devices in Making Money Have Made Counterfeiters' Work Unprofitable.

Correspondence of the Observer.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 17.—The path of the counterfeiter is hard. His game may be fascinating while his shrewd and daring operations go on unnoted, but the hand of retributive justice is sure to catch him at last.

Comparatively few persons recognize the great value of the Secret Service system as it is now organized and operated. It is one of the vital agencies in the government of the United States.

The general public never becomes aware of the personnel and method of operations of the Secret Service, and all information of such a character is carefully withheld.

An interesting person is at the head of the Secret Service in this country. He is John E. Wilkie. He is not only the brainy detective, but he is also a thorough disciplinarian.

The United States is divided into thirty Secret Service districts. Each one of these districts is in charge of an operative who is given as many assistants as the service demands.

Tales of intrigue and espionage, and stories with a fascinating and extreme character are handed down to the greatest care by the half a dozen clerks in the office of the Director in the Treasury Department.

A visit to the apartments occupied by Chief Wilkie and his assistants presents to the eye a most interesting scene. Hanging on the walls are the photographs of every known counterfeiter in this country classified in a revolving case.

One of the most noted cases of counterfeiting that ever occurred in this country was that of Kendig and Jacobs. For a long period the two men succeeded in counterfeiting revenue stamps.

standing as citizens. Both realized that a fortune could be realized in counterfeiting internal revenue stamps. They employed Fredell and Taylor, of Philadelphia, two notorious engravers to do their work.

During the latter part of 1898 there appeared in circulation a fine counterfeit of the one-cent certificate. These bills had passed through banks in Philadelphia and were not detected until they reached the Treasury Department in Washington.

Chief Wilkie got in some brilliant work at this juncture. He had a friend in Chicago, a wholesale tobacco dealer. He wrote this friend asking that several different brands of cigars be sent him immediately.

Not only are revenue stamps counterfeited, but the postage stamps are also counterfeited. Several thousands of dollars have been engraved and sold. These, however, are more quickly detected and gathered in by the quick-witted sleuths of the bureau.

The seemingly dull and listless "Heathen Chinese" is said to be one of the cleverest artisans in the work of converting Mexican silver dollars into gold. This appears to have been profitable, as large sums of counterfeit of excellent quality have been brought into the United States from the Philippines and dumped off in California.

The statement has been made that at one time another counterfeit-dollar and half-dollar have been brought into the United States in great quantities. The Mexican money is not detected until it reaches the Treasury Department and comes before the eyes of the expert.

The development of modern processes of photo-lithography, photo-gravure and etching have revolutionized the counterfeit-forging industry and daring machinations of the counterfeiter and his confederates of a few years ago has now been reduced to a minimum.

WOES OF CORN CRACKER

ONE TREADS ON OTHER'S HEELS

The Seven-Year Ten Demoralizes a Sabbath and Two Public Schools—Committee Favors Debs, Bad Roads and Ignorance in Preference—Education and Religion Two Things Not Regulated by the Law of Supply and Demand.

To the Editor of The Observer:

It still seems that one woe treadeth upon the heels of another.

Bad colds and quitting tobacco are hardships in their way, but another Richmond is in the field, whose march is as irresistible as the steady tramp of the potato bug.

It has chased an evergreen Sunday school into winter quarters and demoralized two public schools.

The green bay tree, and juveniles were regaled with stories of Jonah, Daniel, David, Solomon and other ancient worthies.

It is a queer how the "hayseed" supports the ponderous earth.

If a man is slow a girl will soon find it out.

It must be force of habit that makes a woman lose her deadliest foe.

People are by their affections as they are by their values; they don't like to let them out unless they are returned.

Some enterprising printer ought to invent a period and comma that could be written.

Love is not always found in the vine covered cottage.

It's funny that when a man wants to get up in the world he has to dig down.

Some people rise early in the morning the second day in boasting of it.

The man who believes in nothing is apt to have something taught him.

Where one person finds a dollar another is sure to look in the same place for more.

Laziness is sometimes taken for that rare virtue—patience.

At any rate the more irons a man has in the fire the less he is liable to rust.

Somehow or other the most of the jobs that manage to get blood out of a turnip.

It is hard to get a man to admit that he's afraid of anything when he is in the presence of his best girl.

The man who despises the sight of a police uniform should have one constantly near him.

A glib tongue ought to be harnessed by its owner and put to some use.

An immature mind is fond of boasting.

The man who rests on his hands will find it comfortable sleeping.

The reason that we confine a man with wheels in his head in the asylum is probably because we don't want him to roll around too much.

Most of us who are tellously careful are apt to relax at the wrong moment sometimes.

The man who is patient with a mule ought to make a mule his husband.

The consequence would be amusing, to say the least, if all we went early to avoid the rush.

There wouldn't be so much kicking against certain church stingers if the world carried the same tune that the choir is trying to sing.

A man ought to be sure that he's not talking to himself when he feels called to perform a piece of work.

When a man climbs on the "water wagon" he will usually find himself among decent passengers.

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credit. That doesn't matter, though, if we get results. Some of us remember when a man who has the sand to say that schools should be longer, that a tax should be voted, and teachers paid living remunerations, was regarded as a crank and a busybody—especially if he let the water in on some snivelling sky-pilot. But some of the same hot and cold blowing "statesmen" now see that the teacher is a hard-worked, poorly-paid mortal, and schools should be longer. In ten more years, the same gang are liable to take a stand for good roads. By that time all the counties near by will have them, and these d-d demagogues will jump and pose as pioneers.

At present the roads in Cleveland county, generally speaking, are well nigh impassible. For all the selfish cusses who inherited the land on either side of them, raise a row if anybody suggests putting a road in the right place. Because they lacked energy to leave here, these back number hill-bills have stayed where they were born till progressive men made advances on educational, agricultural and other progressive lines; till their land has been enhanced in value.

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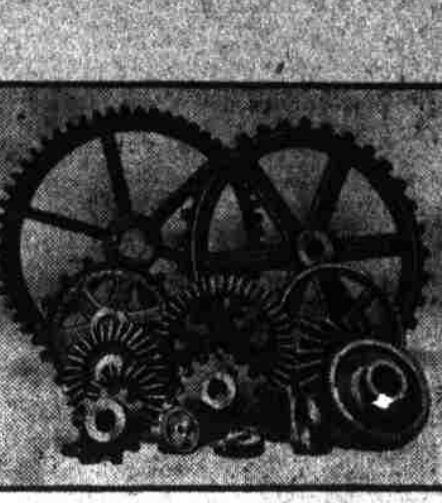
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Don't forget that a flatterer always has an axe to grind.

OPEN THE DOOR.  
British Weekly.

Open the door, let in the air; The winds are sweet and the flowers are fair. Joy is abroad in the world to-day; If our door is wide it may come this way.

Open the door: Open the door, let in the sun; He hath a smile for every one; He is made of the raintrops gold and gems. He may change your fears to diadems.

Open the door: Open the door of the soul; let in Strong pure thoughts which will banish sin. They will grow and bloom with grace divine. And their fruit shall be sweeter than that of the vine.

Open the door of the heart; let in Sympathy sweet for stranger and kin. It will make the halls of the heart so fair. That angels may enter unaware.

Open the door: Agonizing Burns are instantly relieved, and perfectly healed by Bucklen's Arnica Salve. C. Rivenbark, Jr., of Norfolk, Va., writes: "I burnt my knee dreadfully; it blistered all over. Bucklen's Arnica Salve stopped the pain, and healed it without a scar." Also heals all wounds and sores. 26c. at R. H. Jordan & Co.'s, Druggists.

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It is made of fine all wool Panama and Mohair in black, cream and navy blue; panel front of six 1/2-inch plaits stitched down to knees and full flaring below; panel back like front; two 2-inch bias folds around bottom; finished with deep hem. All sizes and lengths in stock and mail orders will be filled same day received. \$5.00

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